BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

JANUARY 5, 2000

IN RE:)		
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. TARIFF FILING TO INTRODUCE BELLSOUTH))) I	OOCKET NO.	98-00307
25¢ CALL PLAN SERVICE)		
)		
)		

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF

This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") at the regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on October 12, 1999, for consideration of the tariff of BellSouth Communications, Inc. ("BellSouth") to offer a 25¢ Call Plan Service (the "Tariff"). This optional tariff allows residence customers to pay a \$4.95 monthly fee, per line, with a charge of 25¢ for each intraLATA intrastate toll call.

The Tariff was originally filed on April 29, 1998, with the proposed effective date of May 29, 1998. At the regularly scheduled Authority Conferences on May 19, 1998 and August 18, 1998, the Directors unanimously suspended this tariff for ninety (90) days. On September 30, 1998, BellSouth agreed to waive the six-month deadline to investigate this proposed tariff, which delayed the tariff's proposed effective date indefinitely. On June 4, 1999, BellSouth filed a letter asking that the Authority establish a procedural schedule and set the matter for hearing on the merits.

Petitions to Intervene were filed by and granted to AT&T Communications of the South Central States ("AT&T"), MCI Telecommunications Corporation, MCImetro Access Transmission Services, Inc. and Worldcom Technologies, Inc. (collectively, "MCI/WorldCom"), and Sprint Communications Company LP ("Sprint"). However, by letter of July 27, 1999, MCI/WorldCom requested to withdraw from this docket. At the Pre-Hearing Conference of July 27, 1999, Sprint announced that it would no longer actively participate in this docket, and would continue its intervention for the limited purpose of receiving copies of the pleadings as well as to monitor the proceeding.

At its regularly scheduled conference on August 24, 1999, the Authority unanimously approved the Report and Recommendation of the Pre-Hearing Officer, which included a procedural schedule that had been agreed to by the parties at the July 27, 1999 Pre-Hearing Conference. AT&T and BellSouth subsequently exchanged discovery requests and responses and BellSouth pre-filed its testimony on September 13, 1999. However, on September 22, 1999, AT&T filed a Notice of Withdrawal of Intervention.

BellSouth's cost studies reflect that the revenues from the monthly fee and per call charges will exceed long run incremental costs and that the rates proposed exceed the price floor. BellSouth stated that its 25¢ Call Plan Service is available for resale, at a discount, by any certified carrier operating in Tennessee. Finally, this tariff is very similar to LATA Wide Service, which was recently approved in Docket No. 98-00634.

This proposed service will provide another toll option to customers. The simplified rating of a call at 25¢ regardless of its length¹, distance, time of day, or day of the week may be very appropriate for many customers needs.

After consideration of this matter, the Directors voted unanimously to grant AT&T's withdrawal from this docket and to approve the tariff as filed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

That BellSouth's Tariff No. 98-00307 is approved.

Melvin J. Malone, Chairman

H. Lorin Greer, Jr., Director

Sara Kyle, Director

ATTEST:

K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary

¹ A long duration call that exceeds two successive midnights would be billed \$.25 for each 24 hour period or fraction thereof.